

THURSDAYS NOTES

CACHE ISSUES - Ed Plapp

New Program:

ICBSR – Interagency Cache Business Systems

- exchanges data with ROSS
- it is being adapted to allow local caches to link together
- target date for completed set-up is the end of 2006
- the potential is there for subsequent tie in with I-Suites

National Cache Strategic Planning

Ops, staffing, customer service and predictive services are being studied.

Type III Team Support

A Type III Team kit has been developed. At the present time it is a local cache item only and has not been addressed nationally.

New publications available:

- S-260 Interagency Business Management Handbook – 200
- D-311 – IADP 2005
- Incident Response Guide
- Air Tanker Ops Guide
- Response Guide
- Red Book
- Fire Line Handbook – publication is delayed
- IHOG – delayed
- Military Use Handbook – delayed

Inventory has been completed at Prescott and Silver City

The cache would like us to be continually aware of “units of issue” whenever ordering items.

AIR SPACE COORDINATION - Julie Stewart

Secure Border Initiative

The Predator B is the newest unmanned aircraft in service.

Border TRF for unmanned air craft

- 12,000 – 14,000
- 1700 – 0700 daily
- 300 NM corridor
- 17 miles wide across southern AZ and NM
- Viewable on the web site

New Mexico Space Port
This is an ongoing project

New Class of Jets coming

- Micro Jets
- Seats 5-6
- Can be built in 5 days @ ½ the cost of current jets

Luke Air Force Base ATC Proposal

There have been 75 near mid-air incidents since 2000.
A special air traffic rule for Luke is in place. Check it out on the web site.

Wind Energy Center in NM

600 foot windmills are being built. These will affect our air space!

SUA/ATCAA Listing Website

The items on this web site are not always current or correct – so be aware.

Current helpful tools:

- The newest publication of the Interagency Airspace Coordination Guide is now available
- AFF continues to be a mandatory and valuable tool
- IAMS/CAHIS is now being funded by the USFS and will continue to be available
- FTA's are effective
- Air Space posters are available
- Aeronautical Chart Users Guide – NOA
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- New Airspace Tools:
 - NOTAM Entry System
 - 3 D TFR's
 - Sacramento Wildland Fire Training Center

In conclusion, Julie gave our group a review of her hurricane experience. She faced monumental challenges at every turn.

Lessons learned are valuable and new methods of managing these types of incidents will emerge as a result.

SW AREA AIRCRAFT ISSUES – Larry Hindman

Aviation update – regional and national

AT for 2006 – 16 will be available.

Operational Service Life is becoming a big issue with our older fleet.

MAFFS – 4 for 2006

MAFFS II- next generation fleet

AT planned for the future include:

- 747 and DC10

- P-3, S-3

- BAe146-200

- DASH 8

These will all require Interagency AT Board approval.

Lead Planes

- 10 King Airs in 2006

 - leased with purchase possible

- BLM-ASM

- BLM – Aerial Task Force – ATF

Helicopters

- T-I Helitankers –16 for 2006

- T-II 8 National and 21 Regional contracts.

- T-III exclusive use contracts – 57 Regional

- CWN – T-I, II and III

We are moving to use more exclusive use contracts

SEATS

- BLM, BIA have lead on SEATS

- FS uses SEATS when needed

- Density altitude concerns remain

- Use the right tool for the job.

Safety matters

Informed choice and timely action make for safe aircraft use. We operate in a high risk organization. Analyze your choices, then review your decision. Keep safety foremost in our minds.

ROSS /I-Suites - Jon Skeels

Jon is the third project manager for ROSS.

1. Announced that ROSS is interfacing with the Caches
2. Wildland Decision Support System is under development
3. ROSS is trying to bring consistency to Dispatch – Nationwide.

Jon said that our business is being asked to grow at lightning speed. We stand at a benchmark of disaster coordination capability.

60 agencies are using ROSS. This includes 411 Dispatch offices Nationwide and in Canada.

- In 2005 – 173,467 requests were processed. In the Southwest area 35, 124 requests were processed.
- Partnerships are evolving in ROSS. Many agencies are now interfacing
 - CO State Department of Public Safety
 - FEMA
 - Forest Fire Protection Compacts
 - USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Who is talking about ROSS??

- Congressional hearings are ongoing
- FEMA/NIMS Integration Services
- USDA Rural Development
- Multiagency reviews in southern areas
- Interstate office for EMS

New items:

2.4 highlights – effective March 27th – includes 124 new items. A 70 page document is coming outlining the changes

Some of these changes include:

- Multiplace – multiple orders can be placed at one time
- Request Status – this page will be named Workload Management
- Assignment Roster – rosters will be mandatory- finance will then be able to interface
- Tactical Aviation 1
- Edit Request/Edit Assignment – cleaned up 20 issues
- Incident Screen – 6 reported issues were fixed
- Incident Resources – can release resources while subordinates are still pending

- Tactical Aviation 1B – Lead planes
- Many more changes

Everyone should take the time to check out the changes before fire season is upon us.

Version 2.5 In the planning stage – release will be Oct/Nov 2006

Version 2.6 May be available by next summer

Version 2.7 In the planning stage at this time

ROSS/ Wildcad will be linked very soon!

Contract issue changes:

- System Interface coming soon.
- All contract will be managed by COTR – not Dispatch
- EaTIS coming in on Federal side
- Best Value will be implemented
- ICBS Interface
- Advanced Report Integration
 - ROSS
 - ICBS
 - I-Suite
 - WIMS
 - Financial Services

HURRICANE KATRINA REVIEW - John Philbin

John is the Incident Commander of the Central West Type II Team.

Following Hurricane Katrina this Type II Team managed “Operation Good Neighbor”. They were charged with the task to receive 500 evacuees; to care for them at the Coliseum at the State Fairgrounds and to arrange for their transition into the greater Arizona community. John reported that over 84 agencies cooperated in this effort.

The Team set up a successful “organization” that worked cooperatively in a very complex situation. Lesson learned were taken back to a wide variety of organizations. These lessons will serve as a standard for future events. Congratulations to the Central West Zone Type II Team. Well done!

WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER FOUNDATION - Vicki Miner

2049 Airport Way * Boise ID 83705
208-336-2996 * Fax 208 336 2995
Web-site www.wffoundation.org

This foundation, formed in 1999 following the Storm King Incident, is dedicated to support, financially and emotionally, the families of fallen or injured wildland firefighters.

Their principal mission is:

1. To provide financial assistance to injured and fallen wildland firefighters
2. To honor and recognize the heroics of wildland firefighters with outreach and public education
3. To provide for monument development and maintenance for fallen wildland firefighters and surviving heroes.

Valuable project work includes placing 8.5 foot tall bronze statues of wildland firefighters around the United States. These beautiful statues serve to remind everyone who comes upon them of the heroic sacrifice many have made protecting valuable resources of this nation. At the base of these statues is the inscription: Duty Respect Integrity

We can all assist these efforts by joining the 52 Club. One dollar a week will give great support to this valuable resource. Remember the "power of one" is mighty. Check out the Web-site @ www.wffoundation.org and become a member of the 52 Club.

Vicki gave a very moving and beautiful presentation that reminded each attendee that our shared mandate is to provide safety for the people out in the field.

A silent auction was held during the conference and we are proud to announce that we raised \$1203.00 for the Wildland Firefighter Foundation. Thank you to everyone who contributed and purchased items!

Thank you Vicki for your wonderful work!

CONTRACT ISSUES - Pat Dearing

Pat announced that EaTIS will be implemented and available, hopefully, by 2008.

Region 6 is working with a pilot program right now. EaTIS will not be used in Region 3 in 2006.

Those who have contracting questions are encouraged to contact their local COTR's.

TYPE I CREW CONCERNS - Dewey Riebe

Dewey is the Superintendent of the Gila IHC

Dewey presented issues that the Hotshots had discussed in their meeting which was running concurrently with ours at the San Marcos.

1. They want to be ordered up with their buggies. Dewey asked that we remain mindful of that.
2. We were reminded that Region 3 and 1 are the only regions that use a "rotation based system" for dispatching Type I Crews and that the Hotshots really like that system.

They request, this year, that they be listed on the rotation roster by name, rather than by zone. This will give them, at a glance, knowledge of where they are in the rotation. This will help them to better organize their lives and time when they are waiting for a phone call from Dispatch. All the Hotshot Crews agreed to this slight change as well as SWCC.

ENGINE CONCERNS - Lindsey Yount

Lindsey is the Captain of Engine 34 – stationed at Crown King, AZ.

Lindsey is the Vice-chair of the Engine Operators Committee.

The second annual Engine Academy will be held March 20 – 31, 2006. Region 4 will be guest this year.

From the Washington office;

"Code 3" driving issues are being discussed. Presently, engines may not drive "code 3" - with lights and siren - without the permission of their

Forest Supervisor. Liability issues remain. Dispatchers should be aware of this and advise personnel appropriately as needed.

NEVA'S NOTES

Dispatcher's Conference 2006 was a fun and very productive time for everyone who attended. Sessions, jam packed with great information, were presented by effective and sincere speakers. We know we are probably on the cusp of one of the worst fire seasons in many years here in Region 3. Let's dedicate ourselves to stay focused on our task – providing care and safety for those out in the field, in the air and in our offices.

Honors awarded:

Barry Wallace, AZ-PNF (USFS) was awarded the "Rookie of the year".

Nicole Finch, AZ-PNF (USFS) received the "Al Bell – Excellence in Dispatching" award.

Congratulations to both! Thank you for your excellence!

All attendees would like to thank the members of the Steering Committee for their tireless and superb efforts that made this conference, once again, a success. Listed below are the members of the Steering Committee.

Chairperson: Lynn Lovelace, NM-NMS (NM-State)

Vice-chairperson: Shanna Niemynski, AZ-PHD (BLM)

Secretary: Vivian Oaxaca, NM-ROD (BLM)

Treasurer: Nicole Finch, AZ-PNF (USFS)

Committee members

Marlene Charley, AZ-PAO (BIA)

Eva M Wilson, NM-AAO (BIA)

Maria Valerio, NM-CAF (USFS)

Dave Cygan, AZ-GCP (NPS)

Chuck Holt, AZ-CNF (USFS)

Norma Orozco, AZ-KNF (USFS)

Rick Black, NM-SWCC (USFS)

SWCC Coordinator Representative: (Non-voting). Dugger Huges, NM-SWCC (USFS)

Have a safe 2006 everyone!